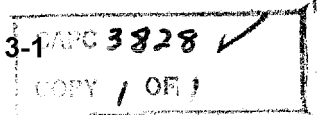


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Approved For Release 2003/01/24 : CIA-RDP62B00844R000200260013-1

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



13 February 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. BISSELL

SUBJECT: Overseas Air Movement

1. The USAF support for Project AQUATONE, specifically as it concerns airlift requirements for overseas movement of personnel and equipment, is becoming an extremely urgent and pressing subject.


2. On 5 December 1955, a requirement was submitted to the Directorate of Transportation of this Headquarters to block 210 personnel spaces and cargo space for 160,000 pounds for the period 1-30 March 1956. This was to be used for the deployment to Adana of Detachment A personnel and equipment, plus certain support personnel and equipment. On 9 January this requirement was cancelled. On this same date action was taken to obtain two C-118 and six C-124 type aircraft to deploy third phase personnel and equipment of Detachment A during the period 1-15 April. On 19 January, after a conference in Project Headquarters, the deployment date was changed to 16-30 April, a date which seemed, at that time, to be more realistic.

3. A serious question now arises as to the Detachment's ability to meet the latest established deployment date. Considering the current status of manning, training, and technical progress, a review of the established date appears to be required.

4. Normally, ninety days advance notice is required by the air transportation system. At least sixty days advance notice is mandatory. The normal method is to forecast exact dates so that necessary commercial aircraft may be chartered to replace military aircraft in event military aircraft must be withdrawn from programmed movements to meet unprogrammed movements. If established dates are not met, an almost unmanageable situation results, due to the inability of the airlift system to effectively utilize cancelled capability or provide additional unprogrammed airlift. For this reason, short notices for movement purposes, even for high priority passengers and cargo, cause some extremely difficult problems for the USAF.

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5. The lack of a firm deployment date for Detachment A could well result in the inability of the Air Force to move the Detachment when desired. Therefore, it is requested that my office be furnished, as soon as possible, a firm movement date toward which all necessary actions can be directed.

  
RUSSELL A. BERG  
Colonel, USAF